

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A focus adjustment apparatus, which attains focus adjustment by extracting, as a focal point voltage, a predetermined frequency component of a video signal
5 obtained from an image sensor upon sensing an image of an object, and moving a focus adjustment member in an optical axis direction using a moving unit to maximize the focal point voltage, comprising:
 - a detector that detects two input states
10 including a first input state, and a second input state which is set via the first input state; and
 - a controller that executes focus adjustment control for the first input state upon detection of the first input state, and selectively enables or disables
15 the focus adjustment control for the first input state in accordance with a time elapsed from detection of the first input state until detection of the second input state, upon detection of the second input state.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further
20 comprising a storage unit,
 - wherein when the first input state is detected, said controller saves a position of the focus adjustment member at that time in said storage unit, and executes the focus adjustment control for the first
25 input state, and when the second input state is detected, said controller disables the focus adjustment control for the first input state when a predetermined

period of time has not elapsed from detection of the first input state until detection of the second input state, and moves the focus adjustment member to the position of the focus adjustment member saved in said storage unit.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein when the predetermined period of time has elapsed from detection of the first input state until detection of the second input state, said controller enables the focus adjustment control for the first input state, and stops the focus adjustment member at a position of the focus adjustment member at the time of detection of the second input state.

4. A focus adjustment method, which attains focus adjustment by extracting, as a focal point voltage, a predetermined frequency component of a video signal obtained from an image sensor upon sensing an image of an object, and moving a focus adjustment member in an optical axis direction using a moving unit to maximize the focal point voltage, comprising:

monitoring a first input state of an input unit which can input two input states including the first input state, and a second input state which is set via the first input state;

executing focus adjustment control for the first input state upon detection of the first input state; monitoring the second input state; and

selectively enabling or disabling the focus adjustment control for the first input state in accordance with a time elapsed from detection of the first input state until detection of the second input state, upon detection of the second input state.

5. The method according to claim 4, further comprising saving, when the first input state is detected, a position of the focus adjustment member at that time,

10 wherein when a predetermined period of time has not elapsed from detection of the first input state until detection of the second input state, the focus adjustment control for the first input state is disabled, and the focus adjustment member is moved to the saved position of the focus adjustment member.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein when the predetermined period of time has elapsed from detection of the first input state until detection of the second input state, the focus adjustment control for the first input state is enabled, and the focus adjustment member is stopped at a position of the focus adjustment member at the time of detection of the second input state.

7. An image sensing apparatus comprising:
an image sensor that senses an image of an object and outputs an image signal; and
the focus adjustment apparatus according to claim 1.

8. An image sensing apparatus which performs focus adjustment by the focus adjustment method according to claim 4.

9. A storage medium readable by a data processing apparatus, said storage storing a program which is executable by the data processing apparatus and comprises program codes realizing the image processing method described in claim 4.

10